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MESSAGE:

Pursuant to the Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form transmitted concurrently herewith. Applicant respectfully requests a teleconference between the Applicant's representative, Shawna Cannon Lemon, and the Examiner to discuss the proposed amendments regarding U.S. Application Serial No. 09/700,057. Below are proposed changes for the above-referenced case. These changes are for discussion purposes only and not to be used as part of the record. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's willingness to discuss these proposed amendments with the Applicant's representative.

1. (currently amended) A composition for preventing or reducing the incidence of adhesions in ~~or associated with~~ a body cavity comprising an aqueous formulation containing a ~~the~~ polysaccharide dextrin in an amount effective to prevent or reduce such adhesions, wherein the dextrin is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more groups selected from the group consisting of negatively charged groups, neutral groups, positively charged groups, and quaternary ammonium groups, with the proviso that the dextrin is not substituted by strongly acidic groups selected from the group consisting of sulphate, nitrate, and phosphate groups, and wherein the

The negative limitation with regard to the sulphate group appears to set forth new matter since the sulfate is disclosed in the Spec. on page 3, line 23.

dextrin contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of poymerisation (DP) greater than 12 and acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other.

2. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the aqueous formulation is a solution.

3. (cancelled)

4. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the percentage of α-1,6 linkages in the dextrin is less than 10%.

5. (original) A composition according to Claim 4 wherein the percentage of α-1,6 linkages in the dextrin is less than 5%.

6. (currently amendmed) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the number average molecular weight (Mn) of the dextrin is in the range of 1,000 to 30,000.

7. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 6 wherein the Mn of the dextrin is in the range of 3,000 to 8,000.

8. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the weight average molecular weight (Mw) of the dextrin is in the range of 3,000 to 50,000.

9. (original) A composition according to Claim 8 wherein the Mw of the dextrin is from 5,000 to 50,000.

10. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the dextrin contains more than 50% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12.

11. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the dextrin is unsubstituted dextrin.

12. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 1 wherein the dextrin is substituted by one or more different groups selected from the group consisting of negatively charged groups, ~~sulphate groups,~~ neutral groups, positively charged groups, and quaternary ammonium groups, with the proviso that the dextrin is not substituted by strongly acidic groups selected from the group consisting of sulphate, nitrate, and phosphate groups.

13. (cancelled)

14. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 in which the dextrin is present in an amount of from 2.5-18 % by weight of the composition.

15. (original) A composition according to Claim 14 in which the dextrin is present in an amount of from 3-5 % by weight of the composition.

16. (original) A composition according to Claim 14 in which the dextrin is present in an amount of about 4 % by weight of the composition.

17. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 which further includes a calcium binding agent.

18. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 17 wherein the calcium binding agent is ~~either~~ EDTA or sodium citrate.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 1 which further comprises ~~includes~~ a hyaluronate.

22. (original) A composition according to Claim 1 which further comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of glycosolaminoglycan, an antibiotic agent, prostacyclin or an analogue thereof, a fibrinolytic agent or an analogue thereof, an anti-inflammatory agent or an analogue thereof, dextrin sulphate and/or methylene blue.

23. (currently amended) A method of preventing or reducing the incidence of adhesions in ~~or associated with~~ a body cavity, comprising introducing into the body cavity a composition comprising an aqueous formulation further comprising a polysaccharide dextrin in an amount effective to prevent or reduce the incidence of such adhesions, wherein the dextrin contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12 and acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other.

24. (original) A method according to Claim 23 whercin the aqueous formulation is a solution.

25. (cancelled)

26. (original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein said composition is applied to the appropriate body cavity after a surgical operation has been carried out.

27. (original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is allowed to remain in the body cavity for a minimum of 2 to 3 days.

28. (original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is allowed to remain in the body cavity over the period during which fibrin exudation is at a maximum.

29. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition remains in the body cavity for a period of up to 7 to 8 days in order to allow restoration of non-stick surfaces ~~(mesothelium regeneration)~~.

30. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the composition is applied to the peritoneal cavity in a volume in the range of 500-2000 ml.

31. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 30 wherein the composition is applied to the peritoneal cavity in a volume in the range of 1000 ml-1500 ml.

32. (original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in differing concentrations over a concentration range of 2.5-18 % by weight of the composition.

33. (original) A method according to Claim 32 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in differing concentrations over a concentration range of 3-5 % by weight of the composition.

34. (original) A method according to either Claim 32 wherein the dextrin is applied to the appropriate body cavity in an amount of about 4 % by weight of the composition.

35. (original) A method according to Claim 23 wherein the concentration range of the dextrin is selectively altered over a period of time.

36. (cancelled)

37. (cancelled)

38. (cancelled)

39. (currently amended) Products containing an aqueous formulation of the polysaccharide dextrin ~~and a feature~~ of Claim 17 as a combined preparation for use in preventing or reducing the incidence of adhesions in or associated with a body cavity wherein the dextrin contains more than 15% of polymers with a degree of polymerisation (DP) greater than 12 and acts as an osmotic agent to maintain a

volume of the aqueous formulation in the body cavity serving to separate tissues which otherwise may adhere to each other.

40. (currently amended) A prevention kit comprising an aqueous formulation of dextrin, wherein the prevention kit is useful for surgical use for the prevention of adhesions in a body cavity in animals or humans.

41. (original) A kit according to claim 40, wherein the kit is biocompatabible.

42. (original) A kit according to claim 40, wherein the kit is bioresorbable.

43. (new) A kit according to claim 40, wherein the kit is non-toxic.